

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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P 171400Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6532

INFO USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 3784

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 9223

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EG US OVIP

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE FAHMY NON-ATTENDANCE AT UNGA

REF: STATE 219807 AND CAIRO 9119

1. FAHMY TOLD ME YESTERDAY THAT HE NOW THINKING OF NOT RPT NOT GOING TO NEW YORK LATER THIS WEEK AS ORIGINALL SCHEDULED. HE WAS "85 PERCENT CERTAIN" HE WOULD NOT DO SO. REASON GIVEN YESTERDAY WAS THAT PRESIDENT SADAT, DURING UPCOMING VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES IN LATE OCTOBER, WILL BE EXPECTED TO ADDRESS THE UNGA. FAHMY SAW NO POINT IN TWO MAJOR EGYPTIAN ADDRESSES TO THE UNGA. MOREOVER, SINCE HE EXPECTS TO ACCOMPANY SADAT, HE SAW NO PURPOSE IN MAKING THE LONG FLIGHT BETWEEN CAIRO AND NEW YORK TWICE IN SO SHORT A PERIOD OF TIME. HE WOULD DECIDE IN THE NEXT DAY OR SO.

2. SINCE WE HAVE MADE ARRANGEMENTS TO SEND SY AGENTS TO PARIS TO ESCORT HIM, I CALLED AL-BAZ TO ASK WHETHER FAHMY HAS NOW DECIDED. AL-BAZ SAID FAHMY HAS DEFINITELY DECIDED NOT TO GO AND I COULD SO ADVISE WASHINGTON.

3. FEW MINUTES LATER FAHMY TELEPHONED ON ANOTHER MATTER, WHICH GAVE ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO ASK
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HIM PERSONALLY IF HE HAD MADE UP HIS MIND. I TOLD

HIM IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT WE KNOW HIS FINAL DECISION SINCE WE HAVE ARRANGED TO SEND SECURITY PEOPLE TO PARIS. THEY WOULD HAVE TO LEAVE IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS TO FLY BACK WITH HIM ON SEPTEMBER 21. FAHMY REITERATED THAT HE IS PRACTICALLY SURE HE WILL NOT GO. TODAY HE ADDED ANOTHER REASON, NAMELY THE DIFFICULTIES AMBASSADOR ABDUL MEGUID IS HAVING IN NEW YORK GETTING HOTEL RESERVATIONS AT EITHER THE WALDORF ASTORIA OR THE PIERRE FOR THE PERIOD NEEDED. (STILL ANOTHER REASON MAY BE MARWAN'S EXPECTED PRESENCE IN NY FROM SEPT 22 TO 28.)

4. I GATHERED HE MAY HAVE INSTRUCTED ABDUL MEGUID TO SOUND OUT THE SYG ABOUT REACTIONS AT THE UNGA IF FAHMY DOES NOT COME AS SCHEDULED. DEPENDING UPON RESULTS OF THESE SOUNDINGS, HE WILL MAKE UP HIS MIND IN THE NEXT DAY OR TWO. HE EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION FOR OUR WILLINGNESS TO SEND SY AGENTS TO PARIS, BUT ASKED THAT THEY NOT RPT NOT PROCEED UNTIL WE HAVE FURTHER WORD FROM HIM AS TO HIS FINAL PLANS
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CHIEF OF STATE VISITS, MINISTERIAL VISITS, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975CAIRO09223
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750322-0344
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750941/aaaabjxa.tel
Line Count: 82
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 75 STATE 219807, 75 CAIRO 9119
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 MAY 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <28 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSSIBLE FAHMY NON-ATTENDANCE AT UNGA
TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, EG, US, UNGA, (SADAT, ANWAR), (FAHMY, ISMAIL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006